

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 NIC-01 /132 W

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P R 301005Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7069

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MY, CH

SUBJ: GOM-PRC DIPLOMATIC TIES

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 2486

B. FBIS BANGKOK 281652Z MAY 74

C. FBIS BANGKOK 281800Z MAY 74

D. FBIS OKINAWA 260518Z MAY 74

1. SUMMARY: GOM CONSIDERATIONS IN DECISION TO ESTABLISH DIPLO-  
MATIC TIES WITH PRC DOMINATED BY FOUR BASIC ISSUES: A) DOMESTIC  
IMPACT ESPECIALLY ON THE MALAYSIAN CHINESE; B) IMPACT ON  
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MALAYSIA'S COMMUNIST INSURGENCY; C) PROMOTION OF THE SOUTHEAST

ASIA ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM, AND NEUTRALITY; AND, D) PROMOTION OF MALAYSIA'S NON-ALIGNED IMAGE. WHILE GOM HAS CONCLUDED THAT NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ARE STRONG ENOUGH, PRC LINE ON PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION AND CLANDESTINE BROADCASTS BY PRC-BASED VOICE OF THE MALAYAN REVOLUTION (VMR) PRESERVE AMBIGUITY OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN STATES AND PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION THUS LESSENING HOPES THAT GOM-PRC RELATIONS WILL DEAL DEVASTATING BLOW TO MALAYSIAN COMMUNIST INSURGENCIES. FURTHERMORE, PEKING HAS AVOIDED EXPLICIT ENDORSEMENT OF ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM, AND NEUTRALITY.  
END SUMMARY.

2. OVERWHELMING CONSIDERATION FOR GOM IN DECISION TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC HAS BEEN ITS ASSESSMENT OF MOVE'S IMPACT ON 36 PERCENT OF MALAYSIA'S POPULATION WHICH IS CHINESE. GOM DECISION TO GO AHEAD IS BASED ON CALCULATION THAT NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND LOYALTY OF CHINESE CITIZENS ARE NOW SUFFICIENTLY WELL ESTABLISHED THAT GOVERNMENT CAN AFFORD RISK IMPLICIT IN ESTABLISHMENT OF PRC EMBASSY IN KL. NEVERTHELESS, IN REMARKS AT MAY 28 PEKING BANQUET, PM RAZAK FELT IMPELLED TO WARN THAT GOM INTENDS TO SAFEGUARD ITS GROWING NATIONAL UNITY. GOM UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF MALAYSIAN CHINESE WELCOME ESTABLISHMENT OF PRC EMBASSY, AND VIEW PRC PRESENCE AS POTENTIAL SHIELD AGAINST EVENTS LIKE THE MAY 13, 1969 RIOTS. OVERALL DOMESTIC IMPACT PRESENCE OF PRC EMBASSY IS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS AT THIS TIME, BUT IT COULD HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT OF REASSURING LOCAL CHINESE AND THUS RELAXING MALAY-CHINESE TENSIONS RATHER THAN POLARIZING A MAJORITY OF MALAYSIAN CHINESE TOWARD PEKING WHICH WOULD HEIGHTEN TENSIONS. BUT THIS IS AT BEST A CALCULATED RISK WHICH GOM RECOGNIZES.

3. SECOND MAJOR GOM DOMESTIC CONSIDERATION IN CHINA MOVE IS EFFECT ON MALAYSIA'S COMMUNIST INSURGENCY. GOM HAS PUSHED PROPAGANDA THEME THAT, WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS, COMMUNIST TERRORISTS (CT) HAVE LOST THEIR REASON FOR BEING AND THAT PRC IS NOT AND WILL NOT AID CT MATERIALLY. CHOU EN-LAI AT MAY 28 BANQUET ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOCIAL SYSTEM OF COUNTRY CAN ONLY BE CHOSEN AND DECIDED BY ITS OWN PEOPLE AND CANNOT BE IMPOSED BY OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT THIS GESTURE WAS QUALIFIED BY CHOU'S REFERENCE TO "INTERNATIONAL DUTY" OF PRC TO SUPPORT "JUST STRUGGLES" AROUND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORLD. THROUGHOUT HIS REMARKS, CHOU REFERS TO THE VALIANT MALAYSIAN PEOPLE, AND MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT GETS RELATIVELY SHORT SHRIFT. IN RECENT BROADCASTS TO MALAYSIA, CLANDESTINE VOICE OF MALAYAN REVOLUTION EMPHASIZES SAME THEMES IN REFERRING TO

PROFOUND REVOLUTIONARY FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CHINESE AND MALAYSIAN PEOPLES, AT SAME TIME DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN STATES AND REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE WAGED BY PEOPLES.

THUS, ALTHOUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF PRC-GOM RELATIONS IS A PSYCHOLOGICAL BLOW TO CT, PUBLIC ASSERTIONS TO COUNTRY, GOM CANNOT HOPE THAT HARD-CORE REVOLUTIONARIES WILL ACTUALLY PACK IT IN OR THAT PRC WILL CEASE IDEOLOGICAL SUPPORT OF MALAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

4. MAJOR FOREIGN

POLICY CONSIDERATION FOR GOM IS CHANCE TO PROMOTE AND GAIN RECOGNITION FOR SOUTHEAST ASEA ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM, AND NEUTRALITY. TUN RAZAK, IN PEKING BANQUET REMARKS MAY 28, ACKNOWLEDGED HISTORIC CHINESE CONTRIBUTION TO SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND, COUPLING THIS REMARK WITH REFERENCE SEA NEUTRALITY TO ZONE POINTEDLY ADDED THAT CHINA CAN PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN PROMOTION PEACE AND HARMONY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. GOM MAINTAINS THAT ZONE CAN COME INTO BEING WHEN IT IS "RECOGNIZED" BY THE THREE GREAT POWERS, AND OBVIOUSLY HOPES FOR PRC "RECOGNITION" TO PUSH THE US AND THE USSR INTO JOINING IN. CHOU EN-LAI IN HIS REMARKS AT SAME BANQUET REFERRED TO ZONE OF PEACE AND NEUTRALITY (SIC), BUT HE AVOIDED EXPLICIT ENDORSEMENT OF IT. INSTEAD, HE REJECTED GREAT POWER ROLE FOR PRC, DESCRIBING CHINA AS DEVELOPING SOCIALIST COUNTRY AND DESCRIBED GOM'S POSITION ON ZONE AS ONE WHICH HAS SUPPORT OF MANY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING CHINA.

5. EXPLICIT IN GOM'S NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY IS MAINTENANCE OF A BALANCED RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OF GREAT POWERS AND MAJOR POWER GROUPINGS. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH EFFECT OF MOVE ON INSURGENCY IS NOT LIKELY TO PRODUCE MAJOR CHANGE OVER NEAR TERM, OTHER INTERNAL BENEFITS ARE REAL AND RELATIONS WITH CHINA CAP KUALA LUMPUR'S KAMPAIGN TO BROADEN TIES ONCE RESTRICTED BY ITS AFFILIATION THROUGH ANZUK WITH WESTERN ALLIANCE.  
UNDERHIL

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## Message Attributes

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